MEGA-ACTION! MEGA-ADVENTURE! MEGA-HERO!

Archie COMICS

MEGA MAN™

CAPCOM

ISSUE 16

BASED ON THE HIT VIDEO GAME SERIES!

WILL OUR HERO SURVIVE?!

ARCHIECOMICS.COM

IN THE YEAR 200X, A SUPER ROBOT NAMED MEGA MAN WAS CREATED BY DR. LIGHT TO STOP THE EVIL DESIRES OF DR. WILY. MEGA MAN NOW FIGHTS ALONGSIDE HIS FELLOW ROBOT MASTERS TO DEFEAT THE FORCES OF EVIL!

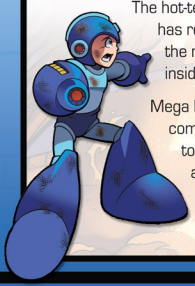
MEGA MAN™

PREVIOUSLY...

When Dr. Light first unveiled his series of ROBOT MASTERS, he hoped to push the boundaries of advanced robotics and create a race of beings that would work to build a better world. Little did he know the corrupt Dr. Wily would use Light's technology to unleash terror upon the very people they were meant to help and protect. That's when a helpful lab assistant robot named Rock volunteered to become a hero of the defenseless, and a challenger of evil. A super fighting robot named MEGA MAN!

Dr. Wily has now, unbeknownst to Mega Man, retreated to the Amazon Jungle. A mysterious new presence called "Ra Moon" has made itself known to the evil genius, and Wily has channeled this strange power into building an army of robot masters...

Meanwhile, what started as a happy reunion amongst friends and colleagues quickly turned to chaos, as the Advanced Robotics Trade Show was hijacked by the anti-technology extremist organization calling themselves the Emerald Spears!



The hot-tempered head of the organization, Xander Payne, has resolved to destroy not only the convention hall and the robots, but to also destroy all the people still trapped inside!

Mega Man, his dog Rush, Elec Man, and their two new compatriots Pharaoh Man and Quake Woman were able to rescue the patrons of the show from an explosive attack by the Spears, however our heroes' creators, including Dr. Light himself, **appear to have been destroyed in the explosion...**

CHARACTER SELECT

MEGA MAN

ELEC MAN

DR. WILY

XANDER PAYNE

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WA/BOOM!

THE EMERALD SPEARS... THEY ACTUALLY SET OFF THEIR BOMBS WHILE PEOPLE WERE STILL IN HERE...
...AND WITH THEIR OWN SOLDIERS STILL HERE. WHAT KIND OF SICK--
ROLL...ROLL'S SMART. SHE WOULD'VE GOTTEN KALINKA AND HERSELF OUT BEFORE...
MEGA MAN! THE DOCTORS!
I KNOW, ELEC MAN! EVERYONE IS IN DANGER. WE NEED TO--
NO! THEY WERE STILL IN THE LECTURE HALL!
THE ONLY BOMB WE DIDN'T DISARM CAVED IN THE LECTURE HALL!

THERE MAY STILL BE TIME.
PHARAOH MAN, GET OVER HERE!
THIS IS WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO!
QUAKE WOMAN, YOU CAN DRILL STUFF, RIGHT?
YES, I WAS DESIGNED FOR GEOLOGICAL EXPLORATION AND STABILIZATION.
OKAY, I'M COPYING YOUR QUAKE DRILL. WE'LL DIG TO THE DOCTORS.
BUT...
...IT IS MOST LIKELY OUR CREATORS ARE DEAD.
THERE'S ALWAYS HOPE. PHARAOH MAN, YOU'RE DESIGNED TO EXPLORE DANGEROUS TOMBS, RIGHT? YOU AND RUSH WILL GUIDE OUR DIGGING AND HELP US GET THE DOCTORS OUT.
YES! WE MUST HURRY TO DOCTOR COSSACK, FOR KALINKA'S SAKE, IF NOTHING ELSE.
ALL ROBOTS TO ME! I NEED YOU ACTING LIKE GUARD RAILS!
LET'S GET TO WORK! THERE'S STILL TIME! THERE HAS TO BE!
WHAT ABOUT ME? I'M NOT GOING TO JUST STAND HERE DOING NOTHING.
YOU'RE A ROBOT MASTER! DIRECT THE OTHER ROBOTS IN THE CONVENTION HALL TO GET THE PEOPLE TO SAFETY!
WOOF!
PICK UP ANY INJURED HUMANS AND GET THEM OUT FIRST!

MEANWHILE, IN THE SECURITY OFFICE...
NO...
NO...
WHAT HAPPENED?! THE BOMBS WENT OFF BEFORE OUR PEOPLE WERE OUT!
UH... WHAT HAPPENED TO HARVEY?
AND MORE WILL DIE IF THE ROBOT REVOLUTION ISN'T STOPPED HERE AND NOW! THERE WILL ALWAYS BE MORE PEOPLE, BUT ONLY IF THE ROBOTS ARE STOPPED!
THE ROBOTS WERE DISARMING THE BOMBS. I HAD TO ACT.
BUT PEOPLE COULD'VE DIED!
WE HAVE TO SAVE HUMANITY FROM ITSELF-- WHATEVER IT TAKES.
YES, SIR...

SECURITY ONLY
BLAM!
BLAM!
MY DAD'S DOWN THERE! I CAN AND WILL STOP YOU! DON'T MAKE ME HURT YOU!
YOU CAN'T STOP HUMANITY, ROBOT! EVEN IF I HAVE TO TEAR YOU APART BY HAND, I'LL--!
MEGA MAN!
I'LL...
...YOU!

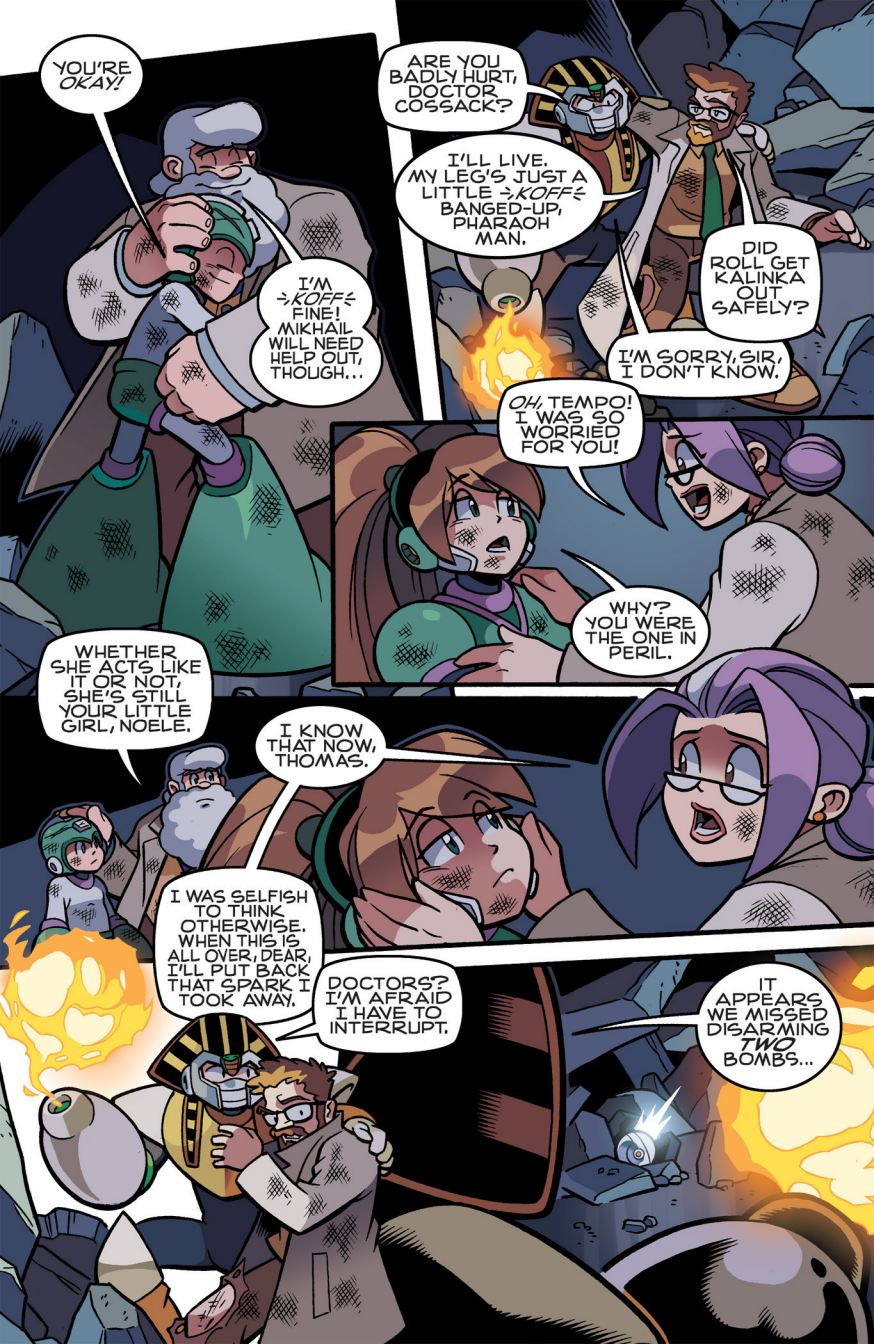
SOUNDS LIKE THE ELECTRIC-THEMED ROBOT MASTER IS MOVING INTO THIS AREA...
HOLD ON, XANDER! WE'RE JUST NEW RECRUITS! BESIDES, WEREN'T YOU ALL FOR THAT LITTLE BLUE ROBOT FIGHTING THEM FOR US A MINUTE AGO?
HE CAN'T DO IT ALONE! WE'VE GOT TO SAVE WHOEVER WE CAN-- WHATEVER IT TAKES!
HQ SAID TO STAY PUT! XANDER!
XANDER!
NONE WILL OPPOSE DR. WILY!
AAAAAAH!
ARE YOU FAMILY?
YESSIR! THEO PAYNE! SAVE MY BROTHER!
WE CAN'T SAVE HIS EYE. AN IMPLANT WON'T BE PRETTY, BUT...
IT'S OKAY! HE NEEDS TO SEE TO FIGHT THE BAD ROBOTS!
I'M SORRY, XANDER!... I THOUGHT YOU'D WANT TWO EYES!
AND IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE ALL ROBOT NOW...

YOU!
YOU DID THIS TO ME!
I WARNED YOU!
NO!
GOOD BOY, RUSH.
WATCH THESE GUYS WHILE WE FINISH RESCUING THE DOCTORS.

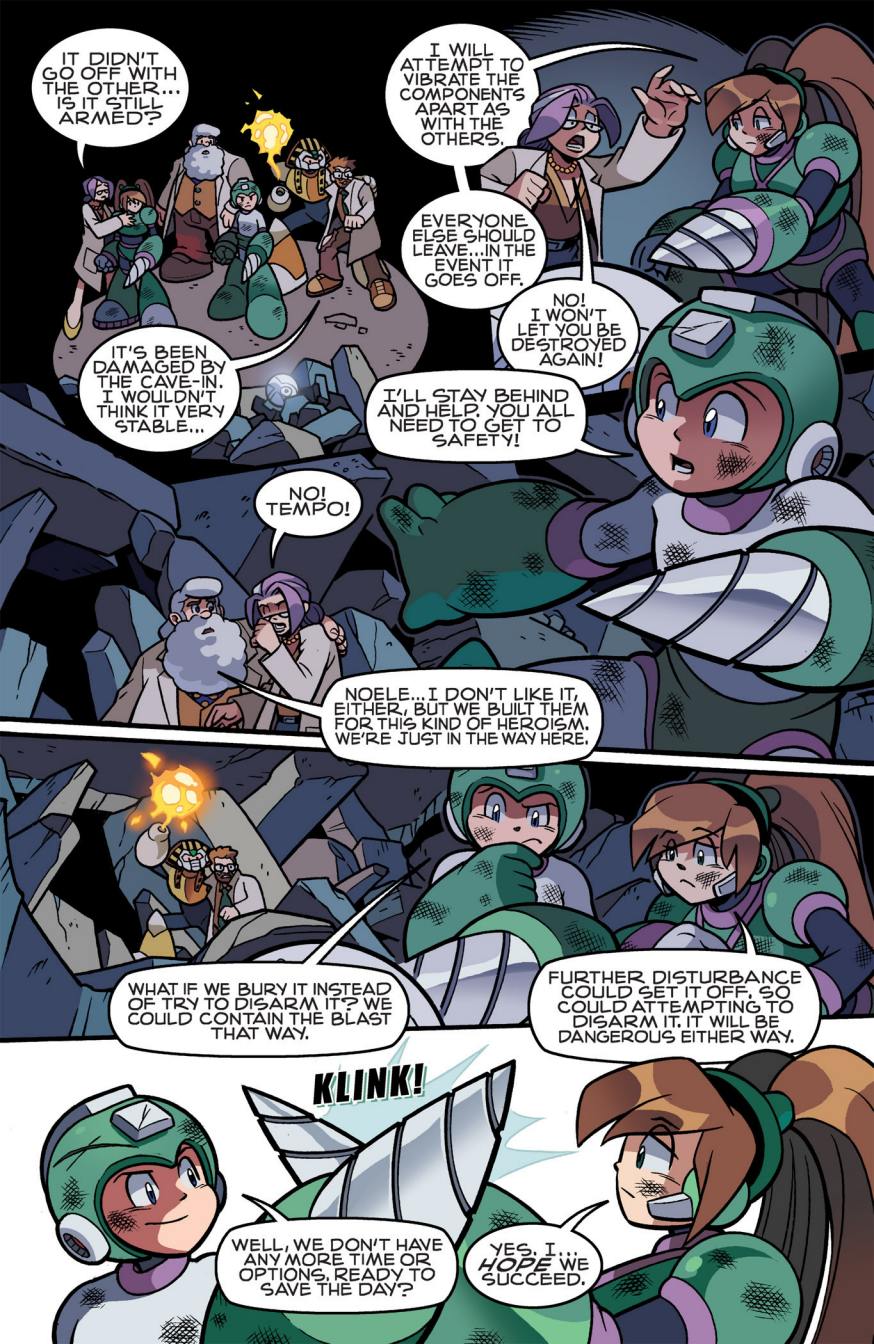
"WE'LL TURN THEM OVER TO THE POLICE LATER."
POLIC
THIS IS MADNESS...
KEEP YOUR HEAD, KID. YOU'LL SEE PLENTY MORE HEARTBREAKING STUFF ON THIS JOB.

AGENT KRANTZ! AGENT KRANTZ!
HOLD ON, GIRLS! YOU CAN'T--!
IT'S ALL RIGHT! WE'LL HANDLE THIS!
I HAVE ALL THE DATA ON THE TERRORISTS ON KALINKA'S PHONE!
BUT THEY SET OFF A BOMB, AND--!
ROLL? SLOW DOWN, SWEETIE. WE'LL GET THIS SETTLED.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, HONEY? ARE YOU HURT?
K-KALINKA COSSACK... MY POPPA WAS INSIDE ...WITH THE BOMB...!
SHH... IT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU HAVE A SEAT IN MY CAR WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFE. I'M SURE YOUR POPPA'S FINE.
I'LL FIND OUT MYSELF, OKAY?
I'M SURE DR. LIGHT AND YOUR BROTHER ARE OKAY, TOO.
I--I'M S-SURE Y-YOU'RE RIGHT. LET'S... LET'S MAKE SURE THESE BAD GUYS GET CAUGHT. FOR THEM.
FOR THEM. SHOW ME AGAIN WHAT YOU'VE GOT.

MEANWHILE...
LEVEL OUT FOR THREE FEET. I'M DETECTING SOME INSTABILITY AHEAD.
NO GOOD! IT'S GOING TO CAVE IN!
DOCTOR LIGHT? DOCTOR LALINDE?
COUNTER-ACTING WITH FOCUSED TREMORS. YOU MAY PROCEED WITH DIGGING.
DOCTOR COSSACK? ARE YOU THERE?
KOFF KOFF! WE'RE HERE, MEGA MAN!

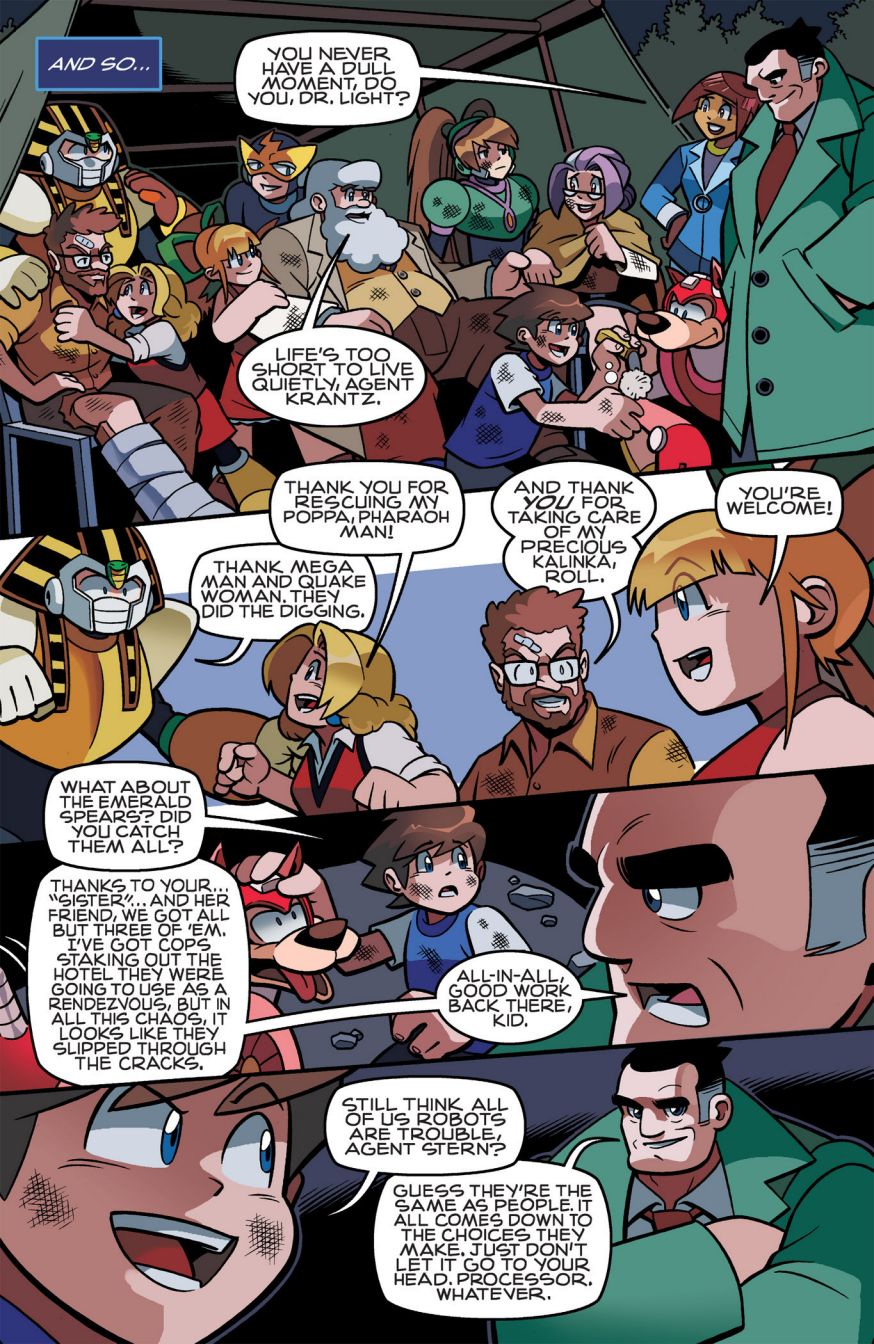

YOU'RE OKAY!
I'M =KOFF= FINE! MIKHAIL WILL NEED HELP OUT, THOUGH...
ARE YOU BADLY HURT, DOCTOR COSSACK?
I'LL LIVE. MY LEG'S JUST A LITTLE =KOFF= BANGED-UP, PHARAOH MAN.
DID ROLL GET KALINKA OUT SAFELY?
I'M SORRY, SIR, I DON'T KNOW.
OH, TEMPO! I WAS SO WORRIED FOR YOU!
WHY? YOU WERE THE ONE IN PERIL.
WHETHER SHE ACTS LIKE IT OR NOT, SHE'S STILL YOUR LITTLE GIRL, NOELE.
I KNOW THAT NOW, THOMAS.
I WAS SELFISH TO THINK OTHERWISE. WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER, DEAR, I'LL PUT BACK THAT SPARK I TOOK AWAY.
DOCTORS? I'M AFRAID I HAVE TO INTERRUPT.
IT APPEARS WE MISSED DISARMING TWO BOMBS...

I'M SORRY I TOOK YOUR EYE. I WAS... NOT MYSELF AT THE TIME.
THAT DOESN'T FIX THINGS, I KNOW, BUT...FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I'M SORRY.
KEEP ON THEM, RUSH.
GRRRR...
NO-NO-NO! WORRY ABOUT CLEANING UP LATER!
I DON'T CARE IF THAT'S YOUR FUNCTION! I NEED YOU ROBOTS TO BE GETTING PEOPLE OUT OF HERE!
YOU THINK YOU CAN STARE THE ROBOT DOWN?
NO, JUST PSYCHING MYSELF UP. BACK ON THE FARM, THE FAMILY DOG GOT CAUGHT BY THE AUTOMATED THRESHER. DIDN'T KILL HER, THOUGH. SO I...
...HAD TO PUT HER DOWN MYSELF!
YIPE!
GET TO THE ESCAPE TUNNEL!
BE ON GUARD WHEN WE GET TO THE HOTEL. THE POLICE ARE PROBABLY ALL OVER THE PLACE BY NOW.
RIGHT. WE CAN'T RISK BEING CAUGHT NOW. THE EMERALD SPEARS HAVE TO ENDURE TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE...
...WHATEVER IT TAKES.


IT DIDN'T GO OFF WITH THE OTHER... IS IT STILL ARMED?
I WILL ATTEMPT TO VIBRATE THE COMPONENTS APART AS WITH THE OTHERS.
EVERYONE ELSE SHOULD LEAVE...IN THE EVENT IT GOES OFF.
NO! I WON'T LET YOU BE DESTROYED AGAIN!
IT'S BEEN DAMAGED BY THE CAVE-IN. I WOULDN'T THINK IT VERY STABLE...
I'LL STAY BEHIND AND HELP. YOU ALL NEED TO GET TO SAFETY!
NO! TEMPO!
NOELE... I DON'T LIKE IT, EITHER, BUT WE BUILT THEM FOR THIS KIND OF HEROISM. WE'RE JUST IN THE WAY HERE.
WHAT IF WE BURY IT INSTEAD OF TRY TO DISARM IT? WE COULD CONTAIN THE BLAST THAT WAY.
FURTHER DISTURBANCE COULD SET IT OFF. SO COULD ATTEMPTING TO DISARM IT. IT WILL BE DANGEROUS EITHER WAY.
KLINK!
WELL, WE DON'T HAVE ANY MORE TIME OR OPTIONS. READY TO SAVE THE DAY?
YES. I... HOPE WE SUCCEED.

FIRST HE SHOOTS MEGA MAN, THEN ME, THEN YOU. I TELL YOU, RUSH, THE FIRST RULE OF ROBOTICS CAN BE A REAL PAIN IN THE...
ELEC MAN!
HAVE YOU BEEN SHOT? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M FINE. THERE WERE SOME LEFTOVER EMERALD SPEARS WACKOS THAT MANAGED TO GET AWAY. WHERE ARE--?
THOOM
...ROCK...
TEMPO!
WHINE! WHINE! WHINE!

WELL ...WE MADE IT!
BARELY.
YEAH, BUT SEE WHAT "HOPE" CAN DO FOR YOU?
"HOPE" IS NON-QUANTIFIABLE.
IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE!


AND SO...
YOU NEVER HAVE A DULL MOMENT, DO YOU, DR. LIGHT?
LIFE'S TOO SHORT TO LIVE QUIETLY, AGENT KRANTZ.
THANK YOU FOR RESCUING MY POPPA, PHARAOH MAN!
THANK MEGA MAN AND QUAKE WOMAN. THEY DID THE DIGGING.
AND THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF MY PRECIOUS KALINKA, ROLL.
YOU'RE WELCOME!
WHAT ABOUT THE EMERALD SPEARS? DID YOU CATCH THEM ALL?
THANKS TO YOUR... "SISTER"... AND HER FRIEND, WE GOT ALL BUT THREE OF 'EM. I'VE GOT COPS STAKING OUT THE HOTEL THEY WERE GOING TO USE AS A RENDEZVOUS, BUT IN ALL THIS CHAOS, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY SLIPPED THROUGH THE CRACKS.
ALL-IN-ALL, GOOD WORK BACK THERE, KID.
STILL THINK ALL OF US ROBOTS ARE TROUBLE, AGENT STERN?
GUESS THEY'RE THE SAME AS PEOPLE. IT ALL COMES DOWN TO THE CHOICES THEY MAKE. JUST DON'T LET IT GO TO YOUR HEAD, PROCESSOR. WHATEVER.

ELSEWHERE...
THAT'S IT! WAKEY-WAKEY! TIME TO RISE, SHINE, AND SHOW SOME GRATITUDE FOR MY TIMELY RESCUE!
DOCTOR...DOCTOR WILY?
YOU DO REMEMBER ME! HOW NICE! YOU HAD A NASTY POWER FAILURE AT THE EDGE OF MY TERRITORY. BUT MY ROBOT MASTERS BROUGHT YOU IN, AND I SAVED YOU.
...POWER FAILURE?
YES! THERE WERE A NUMBER OF...ER, FACTORS...BUT CHIEF AMONG THEM WAS THE FAULTY SOLAR CORE DR. LIGHT FITTED YOU WITH INITIALLY!

...YOU ALTERED ME?
I IMPROVED YOU! I FINISHED WHAT THOMAS LEFT INCOMPLETE! YOUR OLD WEAPONS SYSTEMS ARE TOP OF THE LINE! I'VE DESIGNED ADDITIONAL DEFENSIVE ARMOR FOR YOU! AND NOW YOU'RE RUNNING ON A NUCLEAR CORE OF MY OWN BRILLIANT DESIGN!
BUT MY CORE PROGRAMMING ...YOU DIDN'T CHANGE "ME," DID YOU?
WHAT? NO, IT'S STILL THE SAME. WHY?
OH-HO-HO! DIDN'T THAT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH WHY YOU VANISHED?
I DON'T WANT TO DISCUSS IT.
BUT YOU SAVED MY LIFE. I OWE YOU A DEBT OF HONOR, DR. WILY. IF YOU NEED HELP WITH ANYTHING, I AM YOURS.
I KNEW I COULD COUNT ON YOU, BLUES.

PLEASE DON'T CALL ME THAT. I AM... NOT THAT PERSON ANY MORE.
OH? WELL, I'M NOT CALLING YOU DLN-000. THAT'S BORING.
YOU WERE THE PROTOTYPE FOR THIS GENERATION OF ROBOT MASTERS. WHAT ABOUT "PROTO MAN"?
...MAYBE. IT STILL TIES ME TO MY PAST.
I SEE, I SEE. YOU NEED A BREAK FROM YOUR PAST!
AH! AND YOU WILL HELP BREAK MY ENEMIES! BREAK AWAY FROM YOUR FORMER SELF AND JOIN MY GLORIOUS VISION FOR THE FUTURE!
YOU WILL BE MY BREAK MAN!
THAT WILL DO.

BREAK MAN, MY BOY, I'VE GOT GRAND PLANS! THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF BUILDING TO DO, BUT YOU WILL MAKE A FINE ADDITION...
...TO MY GROWING ARMY!

SPIRITUS EX MACHINA

Part Four: WHATEVER IT TAKES

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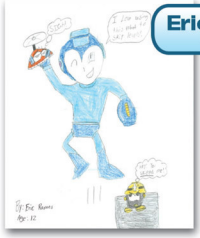
NEXT ISSUE
PROTO-TYPE
PART 1

MEGA-MAIL PRESENTS MASTER WORKS

YOUR MEGA MAN FAN ART



Eric R. from New Jersey

Marilia P. sent to megaman@archiecomics.com

Damian H. sent to megaman@archiecomics.com

Taylor J. from Michigan

SEND IN YOUR FAN ART ONLINE TO: MEGAMAN@ ARCHIECOMICS.COM OR SNAIL MAIL TO:

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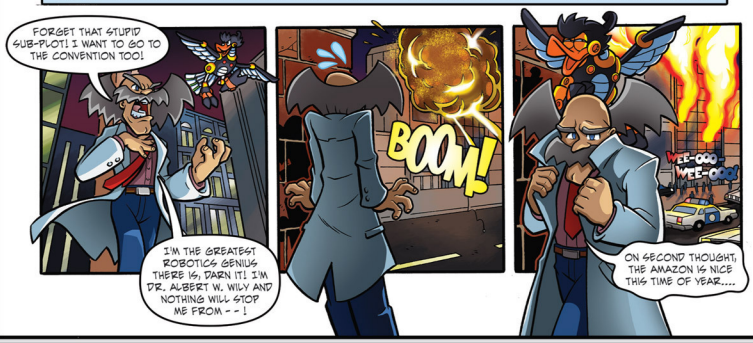
ART WILL NOT BE RETURNED. SPACE LIMITATIONS MAY REQUIRE SOME PRINTED ART TO BE EDITED. ALL YOUR LETTERS & FAN ART ARE APPRECIATED!

– SHORT CIRCUITS –

SCRIPT: IAN FLYNN PENCILS: RYAN JAMPOLE INKS: GARY MARTIN COLORS: VIN LOVALLO


FORGET THAT STUPID SUB-PLOT! I WANT TO GO TO THE CONVENTION TOO!
I'M THE GREATEST ROBOTICS GENIUS THERE IS, DARN IT! I'M DR. ALBERT W. WILY AND NOTHING WILL STOP ME FROM – –!
BOOM!
WEE-OOO WEE-OOO!
ON SECOND THOUGHT, THE AMAZON IS NICE THIS TIME OF YEAR....

MEGA-MAIL

WRITE TO US @: MEGA-MAIL c/o ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX # 419 MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL: MEGAMAN@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

Dear Mega-Mail,
I love your comics.

Why thank you!

I was hoping this comic would be made on my birthday (7/15), but so what.

Hmm, well as a birthday present, we're printing your letter in this very issue! All right Mega-fans, let's all sing "Happy Birthday" on the count of three -- one... two...three!

I love collecting comics, but I like collecting Mega Man comics the most.

Hey! That's not how the song goes! But glad to hear you like collecting the comics!

I know a lot of people say this "try to make Mega Man X comics in the future." I have this idea of making comics where Sonic and Mega Man fight. Keep doing a good job.

Your friend,
Dylan M.
sent to MegaMan@archiecomics.com

Wow, Dylan! You sure called it! ;)
Everyone go check out the news from this year's San Diego Comic Con to read more!

Dear Mega Mail,
I am more than impressed with all the little nods you have littered throughout the series, but ever since issue 3 I can't help but wonder; do you prefer The Megas or The Protomen?

Gin W.
sent to MegaMan@archiecomics.com

We love 'em both!

Dear Mega-Mail,
Mega Man has fast become just about my favorite comic on the stands since Issue 1!

That's what I'm talkin' about!

The latest storyline, Spiritus Ex Machina, is proving to be my favorite storyline yet! As a huge fan of Mega Man 4, I was floored to not only see Dr. Cossack and Kalinka, but my favorite Robot Master of all time, Pharoah Man!

I LOVE Pharoah Man -- and I especially love how he, Rock, Elec Man and Quake Woman worked together as a team in this story arc.

If I had to make one request for the future of the comic, it'd be this: PLEASE let Cossack, Kalinka, and the Cossack Bots remain supporting characters in the comic! You've been doing a fantastic job with all of them, and I just can't get enough of seeing them all interacting with the main heroes!

Light up the night!
-Stark
sent to MegaMan@archiecomics.com

Thanks for the letter, Stark! I can't go into specifics, but you'll be seeing those characters again, and very soon as a matter of fact! We're just getting started exploring the world of Mega Man and his supporting cast, so stay tuned for more suprises as the issues progress!

Dear Mega-Mail,
I must say that Super Adventure Rockman is the last game I would have expected a story about, but I am very happy to see it.

Glad you like it!

I very much look forward to seeing the Stardroids and Dimensions in the future. Maybe even the Constellation Droids and the RM's from the PC games? Well for now, I'm just super excited to see Ra Thor in all his wonderful glory.

Keep on reading and you just might see your favorite character!

And I must sincerely thank you for pleasing the fanbase. I've seen all the song lyrics you've snuck in there.
Here's to more Megas references!

Thank you,
Aipe.
sent to MegaMan@archiecomics.com

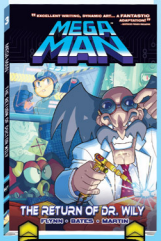
Thanks, Aipe! Look for more Easter eggs in future installments!

That's all for this month, see everyone back here for the Proto Man story beginning in the very next issue! Same Mega-time, same Mega-comic!

NEXT ISSUE:17

PROTO-TYPE
PART ONE

WITNESS THE ORIGIN OF
PROTO MAN
HE'S MEGA MAN'S LONG LOST BROTHER. WHAT WAS IT THAT DROVE A WEDGE BETWEEN THE FIRST SELF-AWARE ROBOT AND THE BENEVOLENT DR. LIGHT?
ON SALE THE WEEK OF 9/18/12!



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